UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Computer Centre

NEWSLETTER

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1   NEW VERSION OF BATCON, THE BATCH CONTROLLER

Version 12 replaces version 11 of BATCON.   Apart from being more
reliable, the functional differences are few and fairly minor:

1.1   Leading spaces or tabs on a control file line are no longer
       ignored.

1.2   The operation of "↑" (up-arrow or circumflex) is slightly
       different, e.g. ↑C becomes Control-C, and ↑↑C becomes ↑C as
       before, but ↑↑↑C now becomes ↑Control-C instead of ↑↑C.

1.3   "$" (dollar sign) no longer has special meaning in control
       files. This change will not affect card deck setups, since
       SPRINT does not put $ control cards in the control file.

1.4   There are no "semifatal" errors. Any incorrect use of the
       batch command language results in an error message and control
       is transferred to "%FIN::".

1.5   Confusion over the interaction of dialogue mode (.OPERATOR)
       and error correction via .IF commands has been clarified.

1.6   .ERROR specifies an additional character to be used in error
       detection.   "?" is always in effect (unless .NOERROR is
       specified).

1.7   Labels in control files must begin with a letter and be
       terminated by "::" (two colons).

1.8   Specifying a .KJOB command is not a recommended practice.

2   LINK - NEW SYSTEM LINKING LOADER

LINK-10 now replaces LOADER as the standard system linking loader.

The only difference apparent to the average user is that the /SEARCH
switch should be used to specify library search mode of loading.

LINK-10 is fully documented in the third edition of the DECsystem-10
Assembly Language Handbook.

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